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Report of the Committee on Conferences

General Assembly

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Fifty-third Session
Supplement No. 32 (A/53/32)

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Note

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I. Calendar of conferences and meetings

A. Matters related to, and inter-sessional departures from, the approved calendar for 1998

Introduction and overview

1. In section A of its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, the General Assembly had approved the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1998–1999 as submitted by the Committee on Conferences to the Assembly at its fifty-second session[1] and amended by subsequent decisions taken by the Assembly during that session.

2. At its 373rd meeting, on 26 August 1994, the Committee had decided that requests for inter-sessional departures submitted to the Committee should, in future, be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

3. At its 379th meeting, on 23 March 1995, the Committee had agreed that proposed changes to the calendar that did not have programme budget implications could be dealt with by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee.

4. At its substantive session of 1995, the Committee had decided that requests for inter-sessional departures submitted to the Committee that involved a change of venue should be referred to the members for approval. Departures that involved other types of changes should, as the Committee had decided at its substantive session of 1994, be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

5. The nature of the requests for a change of venue submitted in 1998, and the action taken by the Committee, are described below:

Organ	*Request*	*Action taken*
Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms	To convene its second session at Geneva from 22 to 26 February 1999, rather than in New York. The Government of Switzerland would be hosting a workshop at Geneva for the Group of Governmental Experts some two to three days before the commencement of the second session, which would give members the opportunity to hear non-members who would like to make a contribution.	Request approved
Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters	To meet at Geneva from 16 to 18 March 1998, rather than in New York, so as to give members an opportunity to confer with participants in the Conference on Disarmament and be better able to advise the Secretary-General on disarmament issues. Moreover, the Geneva venue would enable members, in their capacity as Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to carry out their role of overseeing the Institute in closer contact with its offices and personnel.	Request approved

B. Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999

Introduction and overview

6. At its 409th, 410th and 413th meetings, on 2 and 4 September 1998, the Committee on Conferences reviewed the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999 (A/AC.172/1998/CRP.2 and Add.1).

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it:

(a) Adopt the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999 as submitted and orally amended;

(b) Authorize the Committee to make adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999 that might become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

8. The Committee noted that the Secretariat had taken into account the arrangements referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of section A, of General Assembly resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997. Accordingly, the two holidays of Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha shall be observed as official holidays of the United Nations at Headquarters, and at other duty stations, where applicable, and United Nations buildings at those locations shall be closed to the public on those days. Moreover, no United Nations meetings shall be held on Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha, which occur in 1999 on 18 January and 29 March, respectively. Furthermore, the Committee requested the Secretary-General to ensure strict implementation of those arrangements when preparing all future draft calendars of conferences and meetings of the United Nations.

9. The Committee recommended that, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, every effort should be made to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various duty stations.

10. The Committee requested the Secretariat, when drafting future calendars of conferences and meetings, to merge into one section the draft list of meetings of treaty bodies established under the auspices of the United Nations, including the meetings of the Preparatory Committee of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, and the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the principal organs of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

11. The Committee recommended that United Nations bodies should be invited to avoid holding meetings on 9 April 1999 and that those arrangements should be taken into account when drafting future calendars of conferences and meetings.

12. The Committee requested the Secretariat to report to it at its substantive session of 1999 on implementation of the recommendation in paragraph 6 above.

C. Improved utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. Meeting statistics of United Nations organs; consultations with bodies concerning utilization of the conference services available to them

Introduction and overview

13. Since 1983, the Committee on Conferences has studied a series of reports containing the meeting statistics and, in more recent years, the documentation statistics of a core sample of United Nations organs in New York, Geneva and Vienna. Statistics on Nairobi have been included for the first time in the 1998 report.

14. At its 410th meeting, on 2 September 1998, the Committee reviewed the report of the Secretary-General on meeting statistics of United Nations organs that had met in 1997 (A/AC.172/1998/3).

15. Moreover in paragraph 16 of section A of its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, the General Assembly reiterated its request to the Committee on Conferences, in consultation with the organs concerned, to examine the cases where the utilization factor had been lower than 80 per cent for at least three sessions, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources.

16. With a view to meeting that request, the Chairperson of the Committee on Conferences held consultations with the chairpersons and incoming chairpersons, as the case might be, of the following organs: Committee on Information; Executive Committee – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories; Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee considered an oral report on the consultations in conjunction with the above-mentioned report on meeting statistics.

Discussion

18. Satisfaction was expressed with the report of the Secretary-General on meeting statistics of United Nations organs, contained in document A/AC.172/1998/3.

19. Concern was expressed about the considerable amount of time lost owing to late starting and early adjournment of meetings, in particular by certain bodies that should be models of efficiency. Nonetheless, the view was expressed that in most cases, late starting or early adjournment of meetings did not as a rule reflect irresponsibility or inefficiency on the part of the bodies concerned. Bodies in general should endeavour to plan their work more accurately when requesting meetings and when organizing their programmes.

Conclusions and recommendations

20. The Committee on Conferences took note with appreciation that the overall utilization factor for 1997 exceeded the benchmark of 80 per cent and that the utilization factors at Geneva and Vienna, respectively, were 87 per cent and 88 per cent.

21. It took note with concern of the low rate of compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation.

22. The Committee requested the Secretariat to carry out a study on the possible relationship between the late issuance of documentation and the low utilization of conference services by some bodies in the core sample.

23. The Committee took note of the oral report on consultations with bodies concerning utilization of the conference services available to them, and requested its Chairperson to continue to consult on its behalf with the chairmen of bodies that had consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure of their allocated resources for the past three sessions, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources.

24. It also requested its Chairperson, upon adoption of the report of the Committee on Conferences, to transmit a letter to the chairmen of all bodies that had utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure (80 per cent) of their allocated conference resources in 1997, informing them of the problem and drawing their attention to the heavy loss of meeting time owing, in particular, to late starting and early adjournment of meetings, with a view to encouraging appropriate action on their part so as to improve the utilization of conference resources.

2. Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States

Introduction and overview

25. In its resolutions 50/206 A of 23 December 1995, and 51/211 A of 18 December 1996, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide, within the resources approved for conference services for the bienniums 1996–1997 and 1998–1999, interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groupings, taking into account the priority due to meetings included in the calendar of conferences and meetings, and to submit a report on the implementation of those decisions to the General Assembly, respectively, at its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions, through the Committee on Conferences.

26. Moreover, in paragraph 9 of section A of resolution 52/214, the General Assembly decided to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 1998–1999 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groupings, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice, and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-third session, through the Committee on Conferences, a report on the implementation of that decision.

27. At its 411th meeting, on 3 September 1998, the Committee considered an oral report on the matter.

Discussion

28. The view was expressed that the Secretariat should continue to make every effort to meet the requests for interpretation services made by regional and other major groupings of Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

29. The Committee on Conferences took note of the oral report on provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States.

30. In view of the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of sessional bodies, and in view of the increased requests for meetings of regional and other major groupings, the Committee welcomed the fact that 81 per cent of the requests for such meetings had been met during the period from end-June 1997 to end-June 1998, which represented a marked increase of 13 per cent against the past reporting year (end-June 1996 to end-June 1997).

31. While recognizing that meetings of Charter and mandated bodies must be serviced as a priority, the Committee regretted that 19 per cent of the requests for interpretation services made by regional and other major groupings of Member States had not been met.

32. The Committee again urged intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify the conference services well in advance of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of States.

3. Cost-accounting

Introduction and overview

33. In paragraph 1 of section D of resolution 52/214, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to expedite the development of the cost-accounting system for conference services in 1998 and to extend it to other areas of the Secretariat, ensuring that the system reflected the experience of other duty stations. In paragraph 3 of the same section, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it by 31 July 1998, through the Committee on Conferences and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on measures taken to develop further the cost-accounting system.

34. Moreover, at its substantive session of 1997, the Committee on Conferences had requested the Secretary-General to report on the notional costs of conference services at the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations Office at Nairobi.

35. At its 412th meeting, on 3 September 1998, the Committee considered the reports by the Secretary-General contained in documents A/52/1000 and A/53/257, and the note by the Secretariat contained in document A/AC.172/1998/CRP.3.

Discussion

36. The Secretariat indicated that the activities that had been undertaken were aimed at elucidating the conceptual framework within which the development of a cost-accounting system had to proceed and to define the next stages of that process. The final objective would be to calculate actual costs per unit of production in the area of conference services. That information, when available, would be a more accurate and efficient management and decision-making tool than the full costs and the notional costs used at present.

37. The view was expressed that the report of the Secretary-General on a cost-accounting system for conference services contained in document A/53/257 was useful because it provided a clear statement of the objectives and benefits of a cost-accounting system. It also underlined the difficulties that the development of the system entailed. In these respects, it showed progress in comparison with reports that had been prepared in the past. Activity-based costing was considered to be a method particularly well-suited for the area of conference services. Given the need to continually define and adjust the project as it advanced and, in general, to move in a gradual fashion, the prototype approach advocated in the report was the most efficient way to proceed. Particular attention would have to be paid to the efficient and well coordinated development of the systems designed to provide both conference services and financial information. It was essential also to ensure compatibility among the relevant systems in different duty stations.

38. It was felt that, since a cost-accounting system was a valuable management tool, work on its development should proceed immediately on the basis of the prototype approach. In this connection, it was recalled that action-oriented proposals in this field had been submitted by the Secretariat to the Committee at its substantive session of 1997, but had not been implemented. On the other hand, the view was expressed that the decision to proceed further in the area of cost accounting had to be taken by the General Assembly on the basis of transparent information from the Secretariat. The issuance of two reports on the same subject, separated by only a few days, was questioned. The report contained in document A/53/257 did not provide all the information that was needed to make a well-founded decision, in particular information on the cost of the establishment of a full-fledged system and on the time that this would require. The view was expressed that the reports of the Secretary-General did not allow for a final decision of the Committee, and that a consultative mechanism between representatives of the Secretariat and Member States should be established to consider the issue of cost accounting.

Conclusions and recommendations

39. The Committee on Conferences took note of the reports on the cost-accounting system for conference services contained in documents A/52/1000, A/53/257 and the report on notional costs of conference services at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi contained in document A/AC.172/1998/CRP.3.

40. The Committee took note in particular of the objectives that a cost-accounting system would achieve, as outlined in paragraphs 21 to 23 of document A/53/257.

41. The Committee stressed the need to take into consideration the experience of all duty stations when improvements were made in existing information systems.

42. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to provide preliminary estimates of the expenditures necessary to establish a permanent system as well as a time frame for each phase of the project, once approved by the General Assembly.

4. Improved utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Introduction and overview

43. In paragraphs 12 to 14 of section A of resolution 52/214, the General Assembly noted with concern the underutilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, called for better utilization of conference facilities at that Office and encouraged all the subsidiary bodies of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Commission on Human Settlements and other United Nations bodies to hold their meetings at the United Nations Office at Nairobi to the extent possible. In

paragraph 15 of the same section, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to assist the aforementioned bodies in improving that situation and to report to it at its fifty-third session, through the Committee on Conferences, on the actions taken to that end.

44. The representative of the Secretariat presented an oral report on the matter to the Committee at its 411th meeting, on 3 September 1998.

Discussion

45. Consideration of the item began following an informal video conference at which the Committee and conference service officials from the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna took part. The current level of usage of the conference facilities at Nairobi did not warrant the establishment of a permanent interpretation service there, but the high unit cost of interpretation provision at Nairobi, resulting from the need to engage non-local interpreters, was identified as a disincentive to greater usage of the facilities. The possibility of remote interpretation from the United Nations Office at Vienna was put forward as a more cost-effective alternative to the current arrangements and, if usage rose sufficiently, the question of establishing a permanent interpretation service at Nairobi would be reconsidered.

46. Although the physical conference facilities at Nairobi were underutilized, the picture was incomplete, because conference service translators and editors were fully utilized in providing additional remote translation services. The suggestion was made that, in arriving at an overall utilization rate, the Secretariat should offset the low utilization of the physical facilities at Nairobi against the high level of utilization of the conference services staff.

47. The view was expressed that the problem of vacant conference servicing posts at Nairobi might be alleviated by the introduction of a managed assignment system that would provide non-pecuniary incentives for staff rotated to Nairobi from other duty stations.

Conclusions and recommendations

48. The Committee took note with appreciation of the oral report on improving utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi.

49. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts by the Secretariat to improve utilization of the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, in particular with regard to the pilot project to provide remote interpretation from the United Nations Office at Vienna.

50. The Committee expressed satisfaction at the improvement in utilization rates of the conference facilities at Nairobi between 1996 and 1997.

51. The Committee encouraged Member States, intergovernmental bodies and regional and other major groupings to consider increasing their use of the conference facilities at Nairobi.

5. Improved coordination of conference services

Introduction and overview

52. At its substantive session of 1995, the Committee on Conferences decided to consider, on a biennial basis, the means to ensure the improved coordination of conferences within the United Nations system. Moreover, it requested conference services to maintain an active dialogue with the substantive secretariats of intergovernmental bodies, providing statistics and information on previous performance, as well as guidelines on ways and means to

enhance utilization of conference-servicing resources. At its substantive session of 1996, the Committee had endorsed the idea of the Secretariat to make the active dialogue a permanent coordination feature and directed that such action should be taken at Headquarters, as well as at the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office at Vienna.

53. In addition, in paragraph 15 of its resolution 51/211 A, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure closer cooperation between Headquarters, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations Office at Nairobi in order to improve the coordination of conference services. In paragraph 16 of the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretariat to engage, on a regular basis, in an active dialogue with Member States as a permanent feature at Headquarters, as well as at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, in order to improve the coordination of conference services.

54. Moreover, at its substantive session of 1997, the Committee on Conferences requested the Secretariat to continue to engage, on an ongoing basis, in an active dialogue with Member States at Headquarters, as well as at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, so as to enhance the coordination of conference services.

55. The Committee on Conferences considered the matter at its 407th meeting, on 1 September 1998. At its 412th meeting, on 4 September 1998, the representative of the Secretariat presented an oral report on the matter.

Discussion

56. With regard to a suggestion made at the 407th meeting on the designation of conference servicing headquarters for conferences or meetings held away from established headquarters, the representative of the Secretariat replied that, in accordance with current practice, the responsibility for coordinating services to conferences convened away from headquarters was usually borne by the office where the substantive secretariat concerned was located. However, interpretation and translation might in fact be provided from other duty stations. The practice of sharing responsibility for assigning conference services should be emphasized.

57. With respect to a proposal made at the same meeting for a managed assignment system for language staff, the view was expressed that, under the Staff Rules, the Secretary-General had the authority to assign staff to the various duty stations, as needed. The mobility and hardship allowance at some duty stations probably served as an incentive.

58. The representative of the Secretariat replied that the Secretary-General usually did not exercise his authority to reassign staff involuntarily to other duty stations. Volunteers were sought instead. Moreover, it should be noted that language-staff vacancies existed at numerous duty stations that were not deemed to be hardship posts.

59. The view was expressed that work-at-home arrangements for permanent-staff translators could possibly reduce costs while ensuring quality.

60. The efforts made by the Secretary-General to implement new technologies in remote translation and interpretation made the United Nations a bellwether among organizations. Nonetheless, the state of the technology varied from one duty station to another.

61. Experiments with remote interpretation had been carried out between Headquarters and Vienna, Headquarters and Buenos Aires, and between two conference rooms at Headquarters in the case of the Committee on Conferences during its substantive session of 1997. However, in all cases, the experiments had been restricted to meetings or parts of meetings without lively debate. It was necessary to test the technology in a full session in

order to ensure that the new method was technically feasible and would not in fact affect the quality of interpretation and that support services (e.g., texts and specialized terminology) could be provided to interpreters. Remote interpretation might make it possible to avoid sending interpreters to other venues and to address the uneven pattern of meetings – the "peaks and valleys" – at the various duty stations.

62. On the basis of information provided by Secretariat representatives during informal consultations, it was stated that no further budget reductions could be borne by conference services at the three United Nations Offices.

Conclusions and recommendations

63. The Committee on Conferences took note of the oral reports presented on improved coordination of conference services.

64. It noted with appreciation the efforts made to implement new technologies, particularly in the areas of remote interpretation and translation, and encouraged the Secretary-General to pursue such efforts.

65. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Committee on Conferences, a report on the possibility of introducing a system of managed assignments, based on non-monetary incentives, that would alleviate the excessive vacancy rates in language services at some duty stations and ensure the required quality of conference services Secretariat-wide.

66. The Committee supported the new organizational structure of conference services, which allowed for more effective coordination among the four United Nations conference-servicing centres in New York and at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi with a view to determining the most cost-effective option for the Organization, while ensuring the required standard of services. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to review administrative instruction ST/AI/342 on guidelines for the preparation of host Government agreements falling under General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985 so as to reflect the new organizational structure.

D. Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243

Introduction and overview

67. At its 406th meeting, on 3 August 1998, the Committee considered a note by its secretariat (A/AC.172/1998/CRP.1) containing requests from subsidiary bodies for exceptions to be made to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, in which the Assembly decided that no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly may meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly.

68. In accordance with the procedure established by the Committee, the requests included explanations as to (a) why the bodies wished to meet; (b) why they had not completed their work by the deadline of 1 September, as laid down in section I, paragraph 6, of resolution 40/243; (c) why it was necessary to meet during the session of the Assembly; and (d) how many meetings would be required. Statistical information was also provided on the number of meetings, if any, that the bodies concerned had held during the fifty-second session of

the Assembly and the efficiency with which they had utilized the resources made available to them.

Conclusions and recommendations

69. The Committee on Conferences recommended to the General Assembly that it explicitly authorize the following bodies to meet in New York during the main part of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, on the understanding that meetings would have to be accommodated as facilities and services became available, so that the activities of the Assembly itself would not be adversely affected: Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Population Fund; Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund; Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; and Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

II. Control and limitation of documentation

A. Review of the late issuance of documentation

Introduction and overview

70. The General Assembly, in paragraph 23 of section B of its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, requested the Committee on Conferences to review the late issuance of documents and to suggest remedial action for consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-third session.

71. At its 407th and 408th meetings, on 1 September 1998, the Committee considered a conference room paper on the matter (A/AC.172/1998/CRP.5).

Discussion

72. Although the number of meetings had gone down since 1994, the year when the last comprehensive review of the issue had been conducted and the baseline year used in the conference room paper, delays in issuing documents persisted, which was reason for concern. The Secretariat stated that although document processing capacity was adequate over the year, it was liable to be exceeded by peaks in submission.

73. The view was expressed that more detailed information on the nature and causes of delays in the issuance of pre-session documents was required. In the absence of such information, the six-week rule should not be amended. That rule was intended to give delegations and Governments the time required to consider documents adequately. While new technologies reduced delays in the transmission of documents to capitals, not all delegations were in a position to take equal advantage of those technologies.

74. Concern was expressed about the delay, sometimes without justification, in the issuance of documentation. The need to comply with the six-week rule was reaffirmed. Moreover, concern was expressed about the poor quality of some documents and reports issued by the Secretariat. With regard to the allocation of resources, the view was expressed that the conference services needed to have the resources required in order to remedy the current situation and issue documents in compliance with the six-week rule.

75. The view was also expressed that compliance with the six-week rule was not possible at times, notably during resumed session, and that therefore the rule should be applied in a more flexible manner. Furthermore, it was felt that the late issuance of documentation was mainly due to late submissions by author departments. Lastly, the view was expressed that the increasing requests by Member States for reports impeded compliance with the six-week rule.

76. The Secretariat should determine what additional costs were incurred by document-processing services as a result of the late submission of documents by author departments. Although the use of oral reports could further reduce the volume of documentation, oral reports were not an appropriate means for transmitting complex information, and should not be used in such cases. It was stated that under no circumstances should oral reports become a substitute for written documents. When requests for written reports were made, programme managers should indicate whether it was possible to meet the deadlines in force.

Conclusions and recommendations

77. The Committee took note of the note by the Secretariat on the late issuance of documentation contained in document A/AC.172/1998/CRP.5.

78. The Committee welcomed the establishment of a system of focal points in substantive departments to monitor documentation and encouraged the focal points to exert their best efforts to reduce delays in the submission of documents to the processing services. The Committee recommended that this system should be extended to the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services so that a departmental focal point would be available to account for delays in the processing of documents.

79. The Committee requested the Secretariat to submit to it, at its substantive session in 1999, a report containing detailed data on the reasons for delays in the issuance of documentation and an analysis of the additional costs incurred by document-processing services and of other financial implications of the late submission and issuance of documents.

80. The Committee recommended that the possibility of including a footnote in delayed documents explaining the reason for the delay should be studied.

B. Provision of written meeting records to subsidiary organs of the General Assembly

Introduction and overview

81. In paragraph 3 of its resolution 50/206 B of 23 December 1995, the General Assembly noted the intention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to replace its verbatim records by unedited transcripts, and requested the Committee to keep the Assembly informed, through the Committee on Conferences, of the experience of that body regarding unedited transcripts. In addition, in paragraph 4, it took note of the decision of the Committee contained in paragraph 75 of its report,[2] and requested the Committee to report on the implementation of that decision to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

82. In paragraph 6 of resolution 51/211 B of 18 December 1996, the General Assembly requested the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to keep it informed, through the Committee on Conferences, of its experience with the use of unedited transcripts. In paragraph 7 of that resolution, it took note of the decision of the Committee on Conferences contained in paragraph 89 of its report,[3] and requested the Committee to report on the implementation of that decision to the Assembly at its fifty-second session.

83. Moreover, at its substantive session of 1997, the Committee on Conferences requested its Chairman to write to the chairmen of those bodies entitled to written meeting records who had not yet responded to his previous letter, to remind them of the invitation to consider requesting the Secretariat to issue unedited transcripts of one meeting for comparison purposes, with a view to the possible substitution of such transcripts for their usual records in the future.

84. At the Committee's 408th meeting, on 1 September 1998, the representative of the Secretariat presented an oral report on the matter.

Discussion

85. The view was expressed that the high degree of accuracy in and speedier issuance of its unedited verbatim transcripts reported by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space should be an incentive for other bodies to carry out the experiment with those records. The hope was expressed that the quality observed in the experimental stage by the

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space would also be observed when other bodies carried out the experiment.

86. Moreover, the view was expressed that it would be useful if the Commission on International Trade Law could transmit an evaluation of its experience with unedited verbatim transcripts.

Conclusions and recommendations

87. The Committee on Conferences took note of the oral report on the provision of written meeting records to subsidiary organs of the General Assembly.

88. It also took note with appreciation of the fact that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee had significantly improved the timeliness of the issuance of written meeting records, and had achieved savings by using unedited verbatim transcripts.

89. The Committee requested the Secretariat to continue to consult with the secretariats of intergovernmental bodies with a view to informing them of the speedy issuance of unedited verbatim transcripts and the cost savings derived therefrom, and encouraging them to follow the example of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in carrying out the experiment with unedited verbatim transcripts, so as to enable the Committee on Conferences to make final recommendations on the matter.

90. The Committee emphasized that the choice of unedited verbatim transcripts should be consistent with the needs of the bodies concerned.

C. Compliance with the regulations concerning page limits

Introduction and overview

91. The General Assembly, in paragraphs 4 to 6 of section B of its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, noted the decision of the Secretary-General that documents originating in the Secretariat should be no longer than 16 pages, emphasized that that reduction should not adversely affect either the quality of presentation or the content of the documents and stressed once again the need for strict compliance with the existing page limit for reports of subsidiary bodies.

92. In paragraph 7 of the same section, the Assembly invited all intergovernmental bodies to consider, where appropriate, the possibility of reducing the length of their reports from the desired limit of 32 pages to 20 pages over a period of time without adversely affecting either the quality of presentation or the content of the reports. In paragraph 8 it decided to keep under review the length and quality of all documents.

93. At its 408th meeting, on 1 September 1998, the Committee considered a conference room paper on the matter (A/AC.172/1998/CRP.4).

Discussion

94. The representative of the Secretariat explained that the 16-page limit for documents originating in the Secretariat was enforced taking into consideration the number of words in document manuscripts so as to avoid the possibility that highly condensed layouts could be used by authors as a means of bypassing the maximum-length rule. The principle was that the maximum permissible length was 16 pages of 450 words each. That practice was

intended to control, in particular, the translation load, since translation was the largest cost element in document processing.

95. The need for further efforts within the Secretariat to eliminate exceptions to the 16-page rule was stressed. Sight should not be lost of quality considerations or the need for intergovernmental and expert bodies to receive useful and complete information. Poor quality documents were costly both in themselves and because they did not facilitate the work of the bodies for which they were intended.

96. It was noted with concern that although 78 per cent of Secretariat documents currently met the 16-page limit, the 22 per cent of documents that did not meet the limit accounted for 61 per cent of the workload relating to Secretariat documents, and that the 17 per cent of major policy documents and reports not originating in the Secretariat that did not even meet the 32-page limit accounted for close to 40 per cent of the overall workload included in the sample considered in the paper before the Committee.

Conclusions and recommendations

97. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should stress once again the need for compliance with the existing page limits. The Committee again invited all intergovernmental bodies to consider, where appropriate, the possibility of further reducing the length of their reports from 32 pages to 20 pages.

98. The Committee called on the Secretariat to make its procedures for obtaining waivers to the 16-page rule more rigorous, maintaining however the necessary degree of flexibility, with a view to encouraging author departments to reduce the length of their submissions while maintaining high standards of quality.

99. The Committee requested the Secretariat to submit to it, every two years, updated information on the number and length of documents.

D. Translation-related matters

Introduction and overview

100. The General Assembly, in section B of resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, expressed a number of concerns with regard to translation-related matters and requested the Secretary-General to take certain steps to meet those concerns.

101. Moreover, the Assembly, in paragraphs 13 to 15 of section III of resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997, noted with concern the abolition of 30 posts of translator and interpreter and the practices with respect to self-revision, attaining proportions of 80 per cent during periods of peak workload, whereas the specified standard was 45 per cent. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to keep those two issues under review, in the light of its resolution 50/11 of 2 November 1995, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, through the Committee on Conferences, on their impact on the quality of conference services provided.

102. At its 408th and 409th meetings, on 1 and 2 September 1997, the Committee on Conferences considered two reports on the foregoing matters, respectively, a note by the Secretariat (A/AC.172/1998/CRP.6) and a report of the Secretary-General (A/53/221).

Discussion

103. Comments were made and clarifications were sought by delegations on the various matters covered in the two reports before the Committee.

104. Concerning the suspension of some publications in all official languages, the view was expressed that all the official languages should be treated equally. Clarification was provided by the Secretariat on the practice whereby author departments may take the languages of the target audience into account when determining in which languages publications should be issued. It was noted that publications policy and its implementation were the responsibility of a number of entities besides conference services. Attention was also drawn to the relevant recommendations of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on publications (A/51/946).

105. On the issue of meeting records, the representative of the Secretariat provided clarification on the measures that had been taken to expedite the processing of summary records, both in-house and contractually, with a view to ensuring their issuance within four months after the end of a session. It was further explained that the pilot project involving greater reliance on sound recordings would be assessed by the end of the year in the light of the feedback received from delegations concerned.

106. On the issues of timeliness and quality of translation, concern was expressed over continued high rates of self-revision during peak workload periods and occasional inadequate translations, which sometimes hampered the work of delegations. The importance of continuous training for all translators at all duty stations was emphasized and information was provided by the representative of the Secretariat on the external studies programme at Headquarters. The view was expressed that reliance on night shifts and the inherent risk of lapses in quality were inevitable, but measures could be developed to provide the translators concerned with increased support from submitting offices and secretariats.

107. Concerning the introduction of new technologies, additional information was provided by the representative of the Secretariat on the recent acquisition of computer hardware at Headquarters and its implications. The information provided in the conference room paper on the introduction of computer-assisted translation at Headquarters was noted with interest. It was pointed out that in choosing a system, compatibility and adaptability should be the determining factors. The representative of the Secretariat provided detailed information in this regard. The need for greater coordination between New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, in order to avoid duplication of efforts, was stressed. The deficiencies of the Optical Disk System (ODS) in Vienna were also pointed out. Concern was expressed that safeguards should be in place to protect the investment by the United Nations when extending to contractual translators access to new technologies such as the ODS and computer-assisted translation (CAT) software.

108. Concerning the abolition of posts, which was dealt with in the first part of the Secretary-General's report on interpretation and translation issues (A/53/221), the representative of the Secretariat explained that their impact had been mitigated by temporary assistance and increased outsourcing of translation work; the view was expressed that if those posts had been retained, the translation services could have coped more effectively with the problems that they faced. Regarding both interpretation and translation, the Secretariat remained committed to maintaining the parity of the official languages of the Organization and proportionality among languages had been an important factor in deciding where cuts should be made. Remote interpretation (which was currently in the testing phase) and remote translation (which was a well-established method of work) would promote a more efficient use of existing staff capacity at the various duty stations.

109. The view was expressed that a system of managed assignments, based on incentives, was required in order to encourage language staff to accept assignments to a duty station where opportunities for advancement were restricted because of small staffing tables.

110. In response to requests for clarification, the representative of the Secretariat provided information on the breakdown by language of the abolished posts and explained that care had been taken to preserve an appropriate balance between higher-level and entry-level posts. It was pointed out that certain posts, which had previously been left vacant in order to achieve a mandated vacancy rate, were now available for use in the current biennium. The view was expressed that these posts should be filled immediately.

111. Concern was expressed that costs saved by the abolition of posts would be outweighed by the cost of excessive reliance on temporary staff at peak periods, which might be detrimental to quality.

Conclusions and recommendations

112. The Committee on Conferences took note of the note by the Secretariat and the report by the Secretary-General on translation-related matters contained in documents A/AC.172/1998/CRP.6 and A/53/211.

113. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Secretariat to address the concerns expressed by delegations on translation-related matters, including through continuous training for staff and the introduction of new technology, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue its efforts to improve quality and proficiency in all six translation services.

114. The Committee noted with appreciation that the backlog of publications awaiting translation had been eliminated now that the moratorium on contractual translation had been lifted.

115. The Committee requested that the budget proposals for conference services for the next biennium should be prepared on the basis of actual anticipated requirements, taking into account both anticipated productivity gains and the need for improvements in the delivery of services as identified in section B of General Assembly resolution 52/214.

116. The Committee welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat to improve access to ODS, particularly the establishment of additional ODS centres.

117. The Committee recommended that due account should be taken of the return in terms of, *inter alia*, possible savings and efficiency gains in planning new technology.

118. The Committee recommended further that CAT systems should be compatible with the existing computer platforms used in the United Nations, that they should be upgradeable to future technological developments such as speech recognition and remote access and that the experience of all duty stations should be taken into account in their development.

E. Linguistic monitoring of document production

Introduction and overview

119. At the 405th meeting of the Committee on Conferences, on 14 April 1998, the Secretariat was requested to present a report on linguistic monitoring of document production to the Committee at its substantive session of 1998.

120. At its 409th meeting, on 2 September 1998, the representative of the Secretariat presented an oral report on the matter.

Discussion

121. The view was expressed that linguistic quality control should apply throughout the document production process and that more attention should be paid at the final production stage to the typographical conventions of the various languages and to other considerations affecting document usability.

Conclusions and recommendations

122. The Committee took note with appreciation of the oral report on the linguistic monitoring of document production and encouraged the Secretariat to continue its efforts to ensure effective linguistic quality control through to the final stage of document production. The Committee requested the Secretariat to report on the steps taken in that regard.

III. Review of the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1996–1997: section 26E, Conference services

Introduction and overview

123. The General Assembly, in its resolution 39/238 of 18 December 1984, approved the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination contained in its report on the work of its twenty-fourth session,[4] including the recommendation that relevant intergovernmental bodies should review the programme performance report.

124. At its 413th meeting, on 4 September 1998, the Committee on Conferences reviewed the report of the Secretary-General on programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1996–1997, section 26E, Conference services (see A/53/122 and Add.1).

Discussion

125. The view was expressed that programme budget proposals for conference services should reflect, net of any potential savings through improvements in efficiency, the resources required to meet its real needs and to redress past inadequacies in carrying out the mandated tasks. The representative of the Secretariat took it that programme managers in conference services should take care in their budget planning that potential savings should not be relied upon to such an extent that programme delivery would be jeopardized if such savings failed to materialize.

126. It was stated that no further budget reductions could be borne by conference services at the three United Nations Offices.

127. The view was also expressed that it was not for the Committee to instruct the Secretary-General in budgetary matters, and that the report before the Committee made no mention as such to inadequacies in carrying out the mandated tasks; also, the cause of such problems as late issuance of documents lay not with conference services but with the authors who submitted documents to conference services late.

128. The view was expressed that the budget should be prepared on the basis of real requirements.

Conclusions and recommendations

129. The Committee took note of the report contained in documents A/53/122 and Add.1.

130. The Committee requested the Secretary-General, when submitting budget proposals for conference services for future bienniums, to take fully into account the task of redressing inadequacies in the provision of such services.

IV. Organizational matters

A. Membership

131. The General Assembly, in its resolution 43/222 B of 21 December 1988, had decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to the provisions of that resolution, in 1998, the Committee was composed of the following Member States: Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Chile, Fiji, France, Gabon, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

B. Officers

132. The Committee elected the following officers to serve in 1998:

Chairperson:	Mr. Kohji F. X. Yamagiwa (Japan)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Ms. Valeria González Posse (Argentina) Mr. Peter van de Velde (Belgium) Mr. Abdesalam Medina (Morocco)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Levan Gogoberidze (Georgia)

133. At its organizational session for 1998 (405th meeting), on 14 April 1998, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chairperson would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of the Committee's Bureau in 1999.

C. Organization of work

134. At its 405th meeting, the Committee agreed to meet as required to take up matters related to the calendar of conferences and its implementation, in particular the consideration of inter-sessional departures from the approved calendar. At the same meeting, the Committee requested the Secretariat to submit a draft agenda for 1999 at the organizational session to be held early in 1999. The Committee met on 3 August 1998 (406th meeting) to consider requests for exceptions to paragraph 7 of section I, of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985. The Committee convened its substantive session from 1 to 9 September 1998 (407th to 415th meetings).

135. At its 413th meeting, on 4 September 1998, the matter of low attendance by delegations to meetings of the Committee on Conferences was raised. The Committee recommended that, following the organizational session of 1999, a letter should be transmitted to all members in order to make them aware of the problem and to encourage their participation in its deliberations. The letter should also contain information about the briefing session that would be convened by the secretariat of the Committee with a view to familiarizing members with various aspects of the Committee's work and to encourage them to attend.

136. At the same meeting, the matter of attendance and participation in the work of the Committee by observers was also raised. The view was expressed that interested delegations that were not members of the Committee should be encouraged to participate, particularly in the light of the low attendance on the part of members. The view was also expressed that, while non-members might attend the meetings, which were in fact open to all delegations,

participation by observers would inevitably result in lengthier sessions. The Committee took the decision to defer the matter to its organizational session for 1999.

D. Programme of work

137. At its organizational session for 1997, on 1 April, the Committee had requested the Secretariat to submit to it, at its organizational session for 1998, a draft agenda for 1998, which was subsequently issued in document A/AC.172/1998/L.1 and adopted by the Committee (A/AC.172/1998/1).

138. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services addressed the Committee at the opening of its organizational and substantive sessions.

139. At an informal meeting, on 18 August 1998, the Secretariat briefed members of the Committee on Conferences on the drafting of the calendar of conferences and meetings and on other matters related to the work of the Committee. On 3 September 1998, the members of the Committee on Conferences held joint consultations with conference services at Headquarters and at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi using video-conference arrangements. Members welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat in the two endeavours, which substantially assisted the Committee in its work.

140. At its 413th meeting, on 4 September 1998, the Committee took the decision to request the Secretariat to convene a briefing for members prior to its substantive session of 1999.

V. Work of the Committee during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, from 16 September to 22 December 1997

141. The Committee on Conferences convened its 404th meeting on 21 October 1997, pursuant to a decision taken at its 402nd meeting to defer consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999 to a resumed session, after receiving the revised estimates contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium (A/52/303). The deliberations of the Committee on the matter are reflected in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.[5]

142. In addition, the Committee was seized with the following request:

Committee	*Request*	*Action taken*
Committee on Information	To reconvene its resumed session at Headquarters during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly	Recommended to the General Assembly that it grant an exception to paragraph 7 of section I of Assembly resolution 40/243, thereby authorizing the Committee on Information to meet at Headquarters during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/52/32/Rev.1), annexes I and IV.

[2] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/50/32 and Add.1 and 2).

[3] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/51/32 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

[4] Ibid., *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/39/38).

[5] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/52/32/Rev.1), paras. 128-138.

Annex

Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations and of the principal organs of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and treaty bodies established under the auspices of the United Nations

Explanatory notes

The following abbreviations are used in the present annex:

In the column headed "Organ"

ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
NGO	Non-governmental organization
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research

UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNU	United Nations University
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

In the column headed "Membership"

G	Governments
E	Experts
ST	Secretariat or secretariats

In the column headed "Servicing"

I	Interpretation
T	Translation
PV	Verbatim records
SR	Summary records
UVT	Unedited verbatim transcript

A. Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations, 1999

(as at 4 September 1998)

Organ		*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
1.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, twentieth session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	4–22 January	Geneva	10 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
2.	Group of Experts for the study on the problem of ammunition and explosives, second session [General Assembly resolution 52/38 J]	11–15 January	New York	To be determined	I (ES)	T	—	
3.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women – Pre-sessional Working Group [General Assembly resolutions 45/124, 47/94 and 51/68]	11–15 January	New York	4 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
4.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on involvement of children in armed conflicts [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/271]	11–22 January	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
5.	Military Staff Committee [Charter]	15 January, once every fortnight thereafter	New York	5 G	I (CEFR)	T	PV	Every second Friday
6.	UNICEF – Executive Board, first regular session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	19–22 January	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
7.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, twentieth session [General Assembly resolutions 34/180 and 51/68]	19 January–5 February	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
8.	Economic and Social Council – Election of Bureau [Charter]	21 January	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
9.	Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA, first regular session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	25–29 January	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
10.	Committee on the Rights of the Child – Pre-sessional Working Group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	25–29 January	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
11.	UNCTAD – Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, thirty-third session [UNCTAD resolution 114 (V) and Trade and Development Board decision 156 (XVII)]	25–29 January	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
12. Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/271]	25 January–5 February	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
13. Ad Hoc Group of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, thirteenth session [General Assembly resolution 49/86]	January (2 weeks)	Geneva	139 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
14. United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	January (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year
15. Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters [General Assembly resolution 37/99 K]	January/February (4 days)	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
16. Committee for the United Nations Population Award [General Assembly resolution 36/201]	January/February (2 days)	New York	10 G	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
17. Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)]	January/February (as required)	New York	25 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[c]	
18. Conference on Disarmament, first part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	January/March (7 weeks)	Geneva	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
19. Consultations of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People with representatives of NGO coordinating committees on the question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	1–2 February	New York	12 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
20. Commission on Narcotic Drugs – Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East [Economic and Social Council resolution 1776 (LIV)]	1–5 February	Lucknow	23 G	I (AER)	T	—	One session per year
21. UNEP – Governing Council, twentieth session [General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) and 42/185]	1–5 February	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
22. Economic and Social Council, organizational session [Charter]	2–5 February	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
23. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	2 February–31 March	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
24. INSTRAW – Board of Trustees, nineteenth session [General Assembly resolutions 33/187 and 34/157]	8–12 February	Santo Domingo	11 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
25.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Migrants and Human Rights [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/244]	8–12 February	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
26.	UNCITRAL – Working Group on Electronic Commerce, thirty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 2928 (XXVII)]	8–19 February	Vienna	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
27.	Commission for Social Development, thirty-seventh session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 10 (II), 1139 (XLI) and 1996/7]	9–19 February	New York	46 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
28.	Seventh Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child [General Assembly resolution 44/25]	16 February	New York	191 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
29.	UNCTAD – Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting [Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/67]	17–19 February	Geneva	34 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
30.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 284 (III)]	22–23 February	New York	9 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
31.	Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, second session [General Assembly resolution 52/38 J]	22–26 February	Geneva	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
32.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Situations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/41]	22–26 February	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
33.	Commission on Sustainable Development – Inter-sessional ad hoc open-ended working groups [Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/63]	22 February–5 March	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
34.	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space – Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, thirty-sixth session [General Assembly resolution 1472 A (XIV)]	24 February–5 March	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
35.	Commission on Human Rights – Open-ended Working Group established to elaborate policy guidelines on the effects of structural adjustment programmes on the full enjoyment of human rights [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/276]	February/March (1 week)	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
36.	Statistical Commission, thirtieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 8 (I), 8 (II) and 1566 (L)]	1–5 March	New York	24 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
37.	UNCITRAL – Working Group on International Contract Practices, thirtieth session [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	1–12 March	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
38. Commission on the Status of Women – In-session open-ended working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/227]	1–12 March	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
39. UNCTAD – United Nations/IMO Diplomatic Conference on a convention on arrest of ships [General Assembly resolution 52/182]	1–12 March	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
40. Commission on the Status of Women, forty-third session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 11 (II), 1147 (XLI) and 1987/21]	1–19 March	New York	45 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
41. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, fifty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX)]	1–19 March	Geneva	18 E	I (CEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
42. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space – Legal Subcommittee, thirty-eighth session [General Assembly resolution 1472 (XIV)]	8–12 March	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	UVT	One session per year
43. Human Rights Committee – Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	15–19 March	New York	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
44. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, forty-second session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 9 (I) and 1991/39]	16–25 March	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
45. Committee of the Whole of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39]	16–25 March (4 days)	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
46. UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	22–26 March (3 days)	Geneva	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
47. Commission on Population and Development, thirty-second session, as preparatory body for the General Assembly special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development [General Assembly resolution 52/188]	22–31 March (7 days)	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
48. Human Rights Committee, sixty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	22 March–9 April	New York	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
49. Commission on Human Rights, fifty-fifth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 9 (II)]	22 March–30 April	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year

	Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
50.	UNICEF – Executive Board, second regular session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	23–24 March	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
51.	Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group, substantive session [General Assembly resolution 48/42]	29 March–23 April	New York	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
52.	Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, fifth session [General Assembly resolution 46/122]	March (3 days)	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
53.	UNITAR – Board of Trustees, thirty-seventh session, first part [General Assembly resolutions 1934 (XVIII) and 47/227]	March (2-3 days)	Geneva	28 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	One session in two parts per year
54.	United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	March/April (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year
55.	Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA, second regular session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	5–9 April	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
56.	United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, forty-eighth session [General Assembly resolution 913 (X)]	12–16 April	Vienna	21 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
57.	UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	12–16 April (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
58.	Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the year 2000, third session [General Assembly resolution 51/45 A]	12–23 April	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR*	
59.	Commission on Sustainable Development, seventh session [Economic and Social Council decision 1993/207]	12–30 April	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
60.	UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	26–30 April (3 days)	Geneva	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
61.	Committee against Torture, twenty-second session [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A]	26 April–7 May	Geneva	10 E	I (EFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
62. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, twentieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39]	26 April–14 May	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
63. Disarmament Commission [General Assembly resolution S-10/2]	26 April–18 May	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session per year
64. ECE, fifty-fourth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV)]	27–29 April	Geneva	55 G	I (EFR)	T	—	One session per year
65. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, eighth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/1]	27 April–6 May	Vienna	40 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
66. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice – Parallel meetings for informal consultations and working groups [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/232]	27 April–6 May (12 meetings)	Vienna	40 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
67. Preparatory Committee of the Special Conference of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention in connection with a protocol on verification measures, first session [Final declaration of the Special Conference of the States Parties]	April (1 week)	Geneva	132 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
68. Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations [General Assembly resolution 40/131]	April (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
69. Advisory Group of the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People [General Assembly resolution 48/163]	April (3 days)	Geneva	10 E	I (ES)	T	—	
70. Administrative Committee on Coordination, first regular session [Economic and Social Council resolution 13 (III)]	April (2 days)	Geneva	26 ST	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
71. Commission on Sustainable Development, organizational session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/63]	April (1 day)	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
72. ESCAP, fifty-fifth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 37 (IV), 69 (V) and 723 B (XXVIII)]	April	Bangkok	51 G	I (CEFR)	T	—	One session per year
73. ECA – Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, nineteenth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV)]	April	Addis Ababa	53 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session every two years
74. ECA – Twenty-fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, thirty-third session of the Commission [Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV)]	April	Addis Ababa	53 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session every two years

Organ		Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
75.	ICSC, forty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 3357 (XXIX)]	April/May (2 weeks)	New York	15 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
76.	Committee for Development Policy, thirty-third session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX), 1625 (LI) and 1998/46]	April/May (1 week)	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
77.	Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, eleventh session [Economic and Social Council decision 1993/283]	April/May (3 days)	Geneva	5 E	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
78.	Committee on Information, twenty-first session [General Assembly resolution 33/115 C]	3–14 May	New York	90 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
79.	Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, fifth session [annex II, article 2 (5), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea]	3–14 May	New York	21 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
80.	Commission on Sustainable Development – Ad Hoc Open-ended Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, third session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/65]	3–14 May	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
81.	International Law Commission, fifty-first session [General Assembly resolution 174 (II)]	3 May–23 July	Geneva	34 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
82.	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	4 May–16 July	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
83.	Commission on Human Settlements, seventeenth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/1 and General Assembly resolution 32/162]	5–14 May	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
84.	Economic and Social Council, resumed organizational session [Charter]	6–7 May	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
85.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	10–11 May	New York	9 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
86.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, fifty-seventh session [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/255]	10–14 May	New York	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
87.	International Narcotics Control Board, sixty-sixth session [Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 11]	10–21 May	Vienna	13 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
88.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Pre-sessional Working Group [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39]	17–21 May	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year

Organ		Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
89.	Commission on Science and Technology for Development, fourth session [General Assembly resolution 46/235 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/75]	17–21 May	Geneva	33 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
90.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, twenty-fourth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/260]	17–21 May	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	
91.	Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and further initiatives, first substantive session [General Assembly resolution 52/25]	17–28 May	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
92.	Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, eighteenth session [General Assembly resolution 36/151]	17–28 May	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
93.	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, thirty-second session [General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI)]	17 May–4 June	Vienna	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
94.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, twenty-first session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	18 May–4 June	Geneva	10 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
95.	Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea [General Assembly resolutions 37/66 and 49/28]	19–28 May	New York	116 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
96.	UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	24–28 May (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
97.	UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	31 May–4 June (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
98.	UNFCCC – Meetings of Subsidiary Bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [General Assembly resolution 52/199]	31 May–11 June	Bonn	165 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
99. Commission on Human Rights – Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities – Working Group on Minorities [Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/246]	May (2 weeks)	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
100. ESCWA – Technical Committee [Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/26]	May (3 days)	Beirut	13 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session every two years
101. ESCWA – twentieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV), 2089 (LXIII) and 1994/26]	May (2 days)	Beirut	13 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session every two years
102. Committee for Programme and Coordination, organizational session [Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 31/93]	May (1 day)	New York	34 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
103. Regional Seminar on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism [General Assembly resolution 46/181]	May	To be determined	6 E	I (EFS)	T	—	
104. Conference on Disarmament, second part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	May/June (7 weeks)	Geneva	40 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
105. International Law Seminar [General Assembly resolution 49/51]	May/June (3 weeks)	Geneva	30 E	I (EFS)	—	—	One session per year
106. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board – Committee of Actuaries [General Assembly resolution 1561 (XV), article XXIX]	1–4 June	New York	5 E	I (ER)	T	—	One session per year
107. UNICEF – Executive Board, annual session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	7–11 June	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
108. High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, eleventh session [General Assembly resolution 33/134]	7–11 June	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
109. Committee on the Rights of the Child – Pre-sessional Working Group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	7–11 June	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
110. UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	7–11 June (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
111. Committee on Contributions, fifty-seventh session [General Assembly resolution 14 (I) A]	7–25 June	New York	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
112. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, twenty-first session [General Assembly resolutions 34/180 and 51/68]	7–25 June	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
113. United Nations North American NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	14–16 June	New York	6 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
114. Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA, annual session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	14–25 June	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
115. UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	21–25 June (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
116. United Nations Board of Auditors [General Assembly resolution 74 (I)]	28–30 June	New York	3 E	—	—	—	One session per year
117. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Pre-sessional Working Group [General Assembly resolutions 45/124, 47/94 and 51/68]	28 June–2 July	New York	4 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
118. General Assembly, special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development [General Assembly resolution 52/188]	30 June–2 July	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	
119. Commission on Human Rights – Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities – Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery [Economic and Social Council decision 16 (LVI)]	June (8 days)	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
120. Committee on Non-governmental Organizations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31]	June (1 day)	New York	19 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
121. United Nations Administrative Tribunal [General Assembly resolution 351 A (IV)]	June/July (5 weeks)	Geneva	7 E	I (EF)	T	PV[d]	Two sessions per year
122. Committee for Programme and Coordination, thirty-ninth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 31/93]	June/July (4 weeks)	New York	34 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
123. Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)]	June/July (6-8 meetings per week, up to 30 meetings)	New York	25 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[c]	

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
124. Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters [General Assembly resolution 37/99 K]	June/July (4 days)	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
125. Human Rights Committee – Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	5–9 July	Geneva	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
126. UNCTAD – Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	5–9 July	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
127. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods – Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, sixteenth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/104]	5–16 July	Geneva	22 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
128. Economic and Social Council, substantive session [Charter]	5–30 July	Geneva	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
129. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board – Standing Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	6–9 July	New York	15 E	I (EF)	T	—	One session per year
130. Human Rights Committee, sixty-sixth session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	12–30 July	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
131. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, forty-second session [General Assembly resolution 1472 A (XIV)]	14–16 July	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV[†]	One session per year
132. ICSC, fiftieth session [General Assembly resolution 3357 (XXIX)]	19–30 July	New York	15 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
133. Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) [General Assembly resolution 52/56]	19–30 July	Vienna	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
134. Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, third session [General Assembly resolution 52/38 J]	26–30 July	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
135. UNCTAD – Meeting of Experts within the framework of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	26–30 July (3 days)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
136. Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII) and 1765 (LIV)]	July (1 week)	New York	25 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
137. Preparatory Committee of the Special Conference of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention in connection with a protocol on verification measures, second session [Final declaration of the Special Conference of the States Parties]	July (1 week)	Geneva	132 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
138. Commission on Human Rights – Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities – Working Group on Communications [Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII)]	July/August (2 weeks)	Geneva	5 E	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
139. Commission on Human Rights – Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities – Working Group on Indigenous Populations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/34]	July/August (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
140. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, fifty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX)]	2–20 August	Geneva	18 E	I (CEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
141. Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, fifty-eighth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/255	16–20 August	Geneva	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
142. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, sixth session [annex II, article 2 (5), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea]	30 August–3 September	New York	21 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
143. Commission on Human Rights – Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, fifty-first session [Economic and Social Council resolution 9 (II)]	August (4 weeks)	Geneva	26 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
144. Conference on Disarmament, third part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	August/September (6 weeks)	Geneva	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
145. United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	August/September (3 days)	Geneva or Vienna	15 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
146. UNCTAD – Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, thirty-fourth session [UNCTAD resolution 114 (V) and Trade and Development Board decision 156 (XVII)]	6–8 September	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
147. UNCITRAL – Working Group on Electronic Commerce, thirty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 2928 (XXVII)]	6–17 September	Vienna	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
148. UNICEF – Executive Board, third regular session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	7–10 September	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
149. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	7 September–22 December	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
150. General Assembly, fifty-fourth session [Charter]	7 September–December	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV/SR[a]	
151. Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	13–14 September	New York	9 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
152. Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA, third regular session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	13–17 September	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
153. UNCTAD – Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, fourth session [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	13–17 September	Geneva	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
154. Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, twenty-fifth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/260]	13–17 September	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	
155. Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Desertification, third session, and meetings of subsidiary bodies [General Assembly resolution 52/198]	13–24 September	Bonn	102 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
156. Committee on the Rights of the Child, twenty-second session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	20 September–8 October	Geneva	10 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
157. UNCTAD – Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, fourth session [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	27 September–1 October	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
158. Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol II, as amended, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [Final document of the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention]	September (2 weeks)	Geneva	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
159. Special Conference of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention in connection with a protocol on verification measures [Final declaration of the Special Conference of the States Parties]	September (2 weeks)	Geneva	132 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
160. Meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies [General Assembly resolutions 46/111 and 49/178]	September (1 week)	Geneva	8 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
161. UNITAR – Board of Trustees, thirty-seventh session, second part [General Assembly resolutions 1934 (XVIII) and 47/227]	September (2-3 days)	Geneva	28 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	One session in two parts per year
162. General Assembly, special session for an assessment and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States [General Assembly resolution S-19/2]	September (2 days)	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	
163. UNRWA – Advisory Commission [General Assembly resolution 302 (IV)]	September (1 day)	Amman	10 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session per year
164. Scientific and Technical Committee on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction [General Assembly resolution 44/236]	September	Geneva	25 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
165. United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	September/October (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year
166. Commission on Narcotic Drugs – Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean Region [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/34 and 1988/15]	Third quarter (1 week)	Santiago	41 G	I (EFS)	T	—	
167. Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea [General Assembly resolutions 37/66 and 49/28]	Third quarter	New York	116 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
168. UNCTAD – Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development, fourth session [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	4–8 October	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
169. Human Rights Committee – Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	11–15 October	Geneva	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
170. Committee on the Rights of the Child – Pre-sessional Working Group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211]	11–15 October	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
171. UNCITRAL – Working Group on International Contract Practices, thirty-first session [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	11–22 October	Vienna	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year

	Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
172.	UNCTAD – Trade and Development Board, forty-sixth session (preparatory process for the tenth session of UNCTAD) [General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) and UNCTAD resolution 114 (V)]	18–29 October	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
173.	Human Rights Committee, sixty-seventh session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)]	18 October–5 November	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
174.	UNFCCC – Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, fifth session, and Meetings of Subsidiary Bodies [General Assembly resolution 52/199]	24 October–5 November	Bonn	165 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
175.	UNHCR – Executive Committee, fiftieth session [General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII)]	October (1 week)	Geneva	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
176.	Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, thirty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 2099 (XX)]	October (2 days)	New York	25 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
177.	United Nations Administrative Tribunal [General Assembly resolution 351 (IV)]	October/November (5 weeks)	New York	7 E	I (EF)	T	PV[d]	Two sessions per year
178.	Administrative Committee on Coordination, second regular session [Economic and Social Council resolution 13 (III)]	October/November (2 days)	New York	26 ST	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
179.	International Narcotics Control Board, sixty-seventh session [Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 11]	1–19 November	Vienna	13 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
180.	Committee against Torture, twenty-third session [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A]	8–19 November	Geneva	10 E	I (EFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
181.	UNCTAD – Regional preparatory meetings for the tenth session of UNCTAD [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	8–26 November	To be determined	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
182.	Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, fifty-ninth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/255]	10–19 November	Geneva	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
183.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, twenty-first session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39]	15 November–3 December	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
184.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	22–23 November	New York	9 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
185. Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency [General Assembly resolutions 347 (IV) and 1438 (XIV)]	22–30 November	To be determined	9 E	I (EF)	—	—	One session per year
186. Seventh meeting of States Parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A]	24 November	Geneva	99 G	I (EFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
187. Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, twenty-sixth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/260]	24 November–3 December	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	
188. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People – Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People [General Assembly resolutions 32/40 B and 33/28]	29 November	New York	23 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	
189. Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, twelfth session [Economic and Social Council decision 1993/283]	November (3 days)	Geneva	5 E	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
190. United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities [General Assembly resolution 32/197]	November (1 day)	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
191. Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [General Assembly resolution 1729 (XVI)]	November (1 meeting)	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One meeting per year
192. Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [General Assembly resolution 1729 (XVI)]	November (1 meeting)	New York	193 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One meeting per year
193. UNDP – Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting [General Assembly resolution 32/197]	November/ December (3 days)	New York	33 ST	—	—	—	
194. United Nations Board of Auditors, special session [General Assembly resolution 74 (I)]	1 December	To be determined	3 E	—	—	—	
195. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, resumed forty-second session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 9 (I) and 1991/39]	2–3 December	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
196. UNCTAD – Preparatory Committee for the tenth session of UNCTAD [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	6–10 December	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
197. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Pre-sessional Working Group [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39]	6–10 December	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
198. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods – Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, seventeenth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/104]	6–17 December	Geneva	22 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
199. UNCITRAL – Working Group on Insolvency Law, twenty-third session [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	6–17 December	Vienna	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
200. UNU – Council, forty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 3081 (XXVIII)]	December (1 week)	Tokyo	28 E	I (EF)	T	—	One session per year
201. Disarmament Commission, organizational session [General Assembly resolution S-10/2]	December (2 days)	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session per year
202. UNCTAD – Other commodity conferences and commodity meetings [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 30 meetings)	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
203. UNCTAD – Seminars and study groups [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 30 meetings)	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
204. UNCTAD – Consultations of the Secretary-General and of the President of the Trade and Development Board [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 20 meetings)	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
205. UNCTAD – Executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (3 days)	Geneva	[b]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
206. Trusteeship Council (and drafting Committees) [Charter]	As required	New York	5 G	I (CEFR)	T	PV[c]	As required
207. Security Council [Charter]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	As required

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
208. Security Council Committee of Experts [decision taken by the Security Council at its first meeting, 1946]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
209. Security Council – Committee of Experts established by the Security Council at its 1506th meeting [1969]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
210. Security Council – Committee on the Admission of New Members [decision taken by the Security Council at its 42nd meeting, 1946]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
211. Security Council – Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters [decision taken by the Security Council at its 1625th meeting]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
212. Security Council Commission established under Security Council resolution 446 (1979)	As required	New York	3 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
213. Security Council – Ad Hoc Committee established under Security Council resolution 507 (1982)	As required	New York	4 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
214. Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
215. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 748 (1992) concerning the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
216. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
217. Security Council – Ad Hoc Commission established under Council resolution 794 (1992)	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
218. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 864 (1993) concerning Angola	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
219. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
220. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 985 (1995) concerning Liberia	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
221. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
222. Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1160 (1998)	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
223. Security Council – Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 687 (1991)	As required	Geneva	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
224. United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine [General Assembly resolution 194 (III)]	As required	New York	3 G	I (EF)	T	—	As required
225. Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group [General Assembly resolution 2006 (XIX)]	As required	New York	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
226. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People [General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX)]	As required	New York	23 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
227. Committee on Conferences [General Assembly resolution 43/222 B]	As required	New York	21 G	I (AEFRS)	T	—	As required
228. Committee on Relations with the Host Country [General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI)]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
229. Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA, briefings and informal consultations [General Assembly resolutions 2020 (XX) and 48/162]	As required	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
230. UNICEF – Executive Board, briefings and informal consultations [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	As required	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
231. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [Security Council resolution 808 (1993) and General Assembly resolution 47/235]	As required	The Hague	11 E	I (EF)	T	—	As required
232. International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [Security Council resolution 955 (1994)]	As required	Arusha	11 E	I (EF)	T	—	As required
233. Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations [Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1296 (XLIV) and decisions 1995/304 and 1997/297]	To be determined (3 weeks)	New York	19 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
234. Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996	To be determined (2 weeks)	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
235. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development [Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46]	To be determined (2 weeks)	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years

Organ	Dates (1999)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
236. United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, twentieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 715 A (XXVII) and 1314 (XLIV)]	To be determined (2 weeks)	New York	80 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
237. Group of Experts for the study on the problem of ammunition and explosives, third session [General Assembly resolution 52/38 J]	To be determined (1 week)	New York	To be determined	I (ES)	T	—	
238. Preparatory Committee of the annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol II, as amended, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [Final document of the Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention]	To be determined (1 week)	Geneva	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
239. Commission on Human Rights – Working Group on Migrants and Human Rights [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/244]	To be determined (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
240. Commission on Human Rights – Open-ended Working Group on the right to development [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/269]	To be determined (1 week)	Geneva	53 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
241. European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders [General Assembly resolutions 415 (V) and 46/152]	To be determined (1 week)	Vienna	55 G	I (EFR)	T	—	
242. Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders [General Assembly resolutions 415 (V) and 46/152]	To be determined (1 week)	San Jose	41 G	I (EFS)	T	—	
243. Commission on Human Rights – Open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group on a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system [Economic and Social Council decision 1998/247]	To be determined (5 days)	Geneva	53 E	To be determined	T	—	
244. United Nations African Seminar and NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	To be determined (4 days)	To be determined	20 E	I (AEF)	T	—	
245. United Nations Asian Seminar on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	To be determined (4 days)	To be determined	20 E	I (AEF)	T	—	
246. United Nations Asian NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	To be determined (4 days)	To be determined	6 E	I (AEF)	T	—	

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
247. United Nations European Seminar and/or NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	To be determined (3 days)	To be determined	20 E	I (AEF)	T	—	
248. United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People [General Assembly resolution 51/23]	To be determined (3 days)	To be determined	To be determined	I (AEF)	T	—	
249. ECLAC – Committee of the Whole, twenty-fifth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 106 (VI)]	To be determined (2 days)	Santiago	41 G	I (EFS)	T	—	One session every two years
250. Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women, thirty-ninth session [General Assembly resolutions 31/133 and 39/125]	To be determined	New York	5 G	—	—	—	Two sessions per year
251. Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women, fortieth session [General Assembly resolutions 31/133 and 39/125]	To be determined	New York	5 G	—	—	—	Two sessions per year
252. Committee for Development Planning – Working Group I [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI)]	To be determined	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
253. Committee for Development Planning – Working Group II [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI)]	To be determined	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
254. Committee for Development Planning – Working Group III [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI)]	To be determined	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
255. Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council [General Assembly resolution 48/26]	To be determined	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
256. UNCTAD – Meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries, and financial and development institutions [General Assembly resolution 52/183]	To be determined	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
257. Executive Board of the World Food Programme [Economic and Social Council decision 1995/227 and General Assembly resolution 50/8]	To be determined	Rome	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
258. UNEP – High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials [Governing Council decision 19/1 B]	To be determined	Nairobi	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	

Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
259. Meeting between representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations [General Assembly resolutions 45/82 and 50/16]	To be determined	To be determined	27 ST	I (AEF)	T	—	One session every two years

[*] Summary records may be provided only for the opening meeting, the general debate and the closing meetings of the Committee.

[†] In its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, the General Assembly endorsed the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fortieth session, whereby, with respect to the records of the Committee, the Committee agreed, on the basis of its evaluation of the use of unedited verbatim transcripts at its thirty-ninth session, to continue the use of those transcripts in lieu of verbatim records and to further review its requirements for those transcripts at its forty-first session, in 1998.

[a] The languages in which interpretation will be provided are indicated. Languages in which translation and meeting records will be provided vary according to the rules of procedure applicable to the body concerned and, in the case of some working groups and similar bodies, according to the actual requirements when these are less than would be provided under the rules of procedure.

[b] Open to the participation of all interested States members of UNCTAD (UNCTAD resolution 80 (III), para. 9).

[c] For plenary meetings only.

[d] When holding oral hearings.

[e] It has been the practice to provide verbatim records for plenary meetings and First Committee meetings only.

B. List of bodies whose mandates are to be presented for renewal to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session

Organ	*Dates (1998)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]		*Periodicity*
1. Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [General Assembly resolution 3349 (XXIX)]	To be determined	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
2. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [General Assembly resolution 2656 (XXV)]	To be determined	New York	9 G	I (EF)	T	—
3. Informal Open-ended Working Group on An Agenda for Peace and/or its Sub-Groups [General Assembly resolution 47/120]	To be determined	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
4. High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations [General Assembly resolution 49/143]	To be determined	New York	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
5. Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII)]	To be determined	Geneva	3 G	I (AEF)	T	PV[b]

[a] The languages in which interpretation will be provided are indicated. Languages in which translation and meeting records will be provided vary according to the rules of procedure applicable to the body concerned and, in the case of some working groups and similar bodies, according to the actual requirements when these are less than would be provided under the rules of procedure.

[b] When holding oral hearings.

C. Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the principal organs of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and treaty bodies established under the auspices of the United Nations for 1999

	Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*
1.	ICAO – Committee, one hundred and fifty-sixth session	18 January–5 February	Montreal
2.	WHO – Executive Board, one hundred and third session	January	Geneva
3.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B	1–12 February	Vienna
4.	UPU – Postal Operations Council	8–12 February	Berne
5.	UPU – Council of Administration	15–19 February	Berne
6.	IFAD – Governing Council	17–18 February	Rome
7.	Extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	22–23 February	To be decided
8.	ICAO – Council, one hundred and fifty-sixth session	22 February–19 March	Montreal
9.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group A	1–5 March	Vienna
10.	IAEA – Board of Governors	22–26 March	Vienna
11.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, eighth session	19–23 April	Vienna
12.	ICAO – Committee, one hundred and fifty-seventh session	19 April–7 May	Montreal
13.	ILO – Governing Body and its committees, two hundred and seventy-fourth session	April	Geneva
14.	IFAD – Executive Board	April	Rome
15.	IAEA – Administrative and Budgetary Committee	3–5 May	Vienna
16.	WMO – Thirteenth World Meteorological Congress	4–26 May	Geneva
17.	WHO – World Health Assembly, fifty-second session	10–19 May	Geneva
18.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B	10–21 May	Vienna
19.	Fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention on Biological Diversity	24–28 May	Montreal
20.	ICAO – Council, one hundred and fifty-seventh session	24 May–18 June	Montreal
21.	UNESCO – Executive Board, one hundred and fifty-sixth session	25 May–11 June	Paris
22.	WMO – Executive Council, fifty-first session	27–29 May	Geneva
23.	WHO – Executive Board, one hundred and fourth session	May	Geneva
24.	ILO – General Conference, eighty-seventh session	1–17 June	Geneva
25.	IAEA – Board of Governors	7–11 June	Vienna
26.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group A	14–18 June	Vienna
27.	FAO – Council, one hundred and sixteenth session	14–19 June	Rome
28.	UNIDO – Industrial Development Board, twenty-first session	21–25 June	Vienna
29.	Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	28 June–2 July	The Hague
30.	ITU – Council	June (2 weeks)	Geneva
31.	ILO – Governing Body, two hundred and seventy-fifth session	June	Geneva
32.	IMO – Council, eighty-second session	June	London

	Organ	*Dates (1999)*	*Location*
33.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, ninth session	23–27 August	Vienna
34.	UPU – Universal Postal Congress	23 August–15 September	Beijing
35.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B	30 August–10 September	Vienna
36.	UNIDO – Programme and Budget Committee, fifteenth session	13–17 September	Vienna
37.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group A	13–17 September	Vienna
38.	IAEA – Board of Governors	20–24 September	Vienna
39.	IAEA – General Conference	27 September–1 October	Vienna
40.	ICAO – Committee, one hundred and fifty-eighth session	27 September–15 October	Montreal
41.	IMF/World Bank – Joint annual meetings of the Boards of Governors	28–30 September	Washington
42.	IFAD – Executive Board	September	Rome
43.	WIPO – Governing bodies	September/October	Geneva
44.	IAEA – Board of Governors	4 October	Vienna
45.	UNESCO – Executive Board, one hundred and fifty-seventh session	11–22 October	Paris
46.	UNESCO – General Conference, thirtieth session	26 October–17 November	Paris
47.	UPU – Postal Operations Council	October/November	Berne
48.	ICAO – Council, one hundred and fifty-eighth session	8 November–3 December	Montreal
49.	FAO – Council, one hundred and seventeenth session	9–11 November	Rome
50.	FAO – Conference, thirtieth session	12–23 November	Rome
51.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, tenth session	15–19 November	Vienna
52.	IAEA –Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee	22–25 November	Vienna
53.	FAO – Council, one hundred and eighteenth session	24 November	Rome
54.	UNIDO – General Conference, eighth session	29 November–3 December	Vienna
55.	ILO – Governing Body and its Committees, two hundred and seventy-sixth session	November	Geneva
56.	IMO – Assembly, twenty-first session	November	London
57.	IMO – Council, eighty-third session	November	London
58.	IAEA – Board of Governors	6 December	Vienna
59.	Fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the International Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (Basel Convention)	December	Basel
60.	IFAD – Executive Board	December	Rome
61.	Sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species	To be determined	Cape Town
62.	Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, fifth session	To be determined	Kingston

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